

(Continued from the first page.)

people and refuse to accede to any concessions by which Southern liberty and State rights can be preserved.

A great meeting was held in the African Church, Richmond, on Monday evening, in response to a call from Governor Smith of Virginia, to obtain an expression of public opinion in reference to the so-called "treaty" to the South, and to the "proposed commonwealth of Virginia," contained in President Lincoln's ultimatum to the Peace Commissioners. The meeting was crowded to the utmost capacity. The leading characters in Richmond were present, after a prayer by the Rev. Mr. Burroughs, the Governor, who addressed the audience in a speech which occupied nearly an hour. He was followed by "President Davis," who made a long speech. He said he would have preferred not to have heard such a speech as that of the gentleman from New York; but probably the people ought to have an advocate upon this floor. The present speaker will not go into an argument upon the basis of a separation of the States, he would deserve to have been impeached by this House and convicted by the one."

Mr. Cox said he was glad the meeting of the Commissioners had taken place for it need not be denied, it filled up our wound and gave us great relief. The Rev. Mr. Gurney said that he wished to hold a conference with the President in order to ascertain upon what terms the war can be terminated in pursuance of the course indicated in President Lincoln's letter to Mr. Blair, of the 1st of January, in which the President speaks of conciliation with the South, and then Grant himself said, "I am convinced upon conversation with Messrs. Stephens and Hunter that their intentions are good, and that their desire sincere to restore peace and union." The thanks of Congress are due to the President for drawing this fact out, for it is not always easy to perceive what the world would treat only on the basis of independence. It was fall to make peace and denounce the Abolition amendment as destructive of State sovereignty, and as a new barrier against reunion.

The reconvening made by Gen. Meade on Saturday and Monday is said to have satisfied Gen. Grant that Lee maintains his more important positions with the full strength of his army, and consequently that what opposition Sherman will encounter will come chiefly from Hardee's army, the State militia of Georgia and South Carolina, and possibly one or two corps from Dick Taylor's army.

**DESENTERS.**—Yesterday afternoon at the corner of Fulton and Front streets two deserters escaped from the custody of five soldiers who had them in charge. They disappeared so suddenly that the soldiers had not time to fire at them.

**PARDONED.**—Just previous to the expiration of his gubernatorial term, Governor Seymour pardoned Mary Real, who had been sentenced to the Penitentiary for killing her husband, in Broadwater.

**A CONVENTION OF IRISH SOCIETIES** was held last night, at No. 42 Prince street, to organize the annual procession on the coming St. Patrick's Day. Committees were appointed to wait on the Mayor, City Council and Corporate bodies, to solicit them to review the procession, and make arrangements for the line of march. After the transaction of other routine business the Convention adjourned.

#### AMUSEMENTS.

**BALMORAL.**—Ever on the lookout for what will please his patrons, Balmoral has added to his immense number of curiosities a valuable collection of life-size figures of the Japanese nobility, which will be exhibited for the first time on Monday.

These figures are carved by the celebrated wood modeler to the great Tycoon, and are richly attired in the costumes of the empire. At 8 in the afternoon, the romantic domestic moral drama of "Desdemona" and "The Flower of the Rock," "Such Is Life," ETC., ETC., ETC., commenced from the beginning in the SUNDAY MERCURY.

The popularity of this wonderful tale is upon the increase to an extent that will nigh baffle every attempt to repeat the exclusive lighting presses of

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can make no appeal to the public that can compare with that created by such niches as the combination of all the other Sunday newspapers "success."

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surpasses all that has been hitherto seen or known in the history of American periodical literature, in the best answer to any who might be inclined to doubt Mr. EGAN's power to touch the most responsive chords of the popular heart. Since the first

chapter of **THE FAIR LILLIAS**

was published in the SUNDAY MERCURY, ever

week, nay, almost every day, has brought an accession of applicants far exceeding the most sanguine ex-

pectations of the proprietors and even of those abiding

ADISCIERNING CRITICS.

Every calculation has been far surpassed by this dazzling literary success and the growth of the excitement promises to continue beyond the possibility of satisfying it.

Nor is the demand by any means local or confined

within the limits of a narrow circuit surrounding the Metropolis, but extends over the country.

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The call for distant supply begins to rival that which was more accurately anticipated close at hand, and as the circle widens, the tide gathers redoubled strength. While naturally gratified at this glorious appreciation of their efforts to meet the public craving for genuine literature, the proprietors of

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additionally rejoice in the fact that they have been enabled to print larger numbers, and to accept an

acceptable matter of mental power.

**MARIE'S RECEPTION.**

Marie's success was but as the dawn to the full blaze of noon, compared with the crowning favor that now greets him on all sides. The voice of carpenter determination is hushed in the presence of so emphatic a reply to unjust taunt-finding.

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that the most careless mind receives a fresh impulse

of vivacious sentiment from its contemplation.

**THE READER SEEKS TO LIVE AND MOVE IN THE STORY.**

shares its motions, partakes of its excitement, shudders with its terrors and is hurried along by the tide of feeling almost as he would be his own application and ultimate fate dependent on the current.

**PERFECT NATURE WITH WONDERFUL ART.**

such characteristics of the products with which the loftiest genius enriches the intellectual world. Mr. EGAN has hit the nail on the head. Nay, he has added charms that belong to no one who have trodden the path of

life before him.

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and by the family scenes as well as in the literary cabinet, there can and ought to be one whole

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